



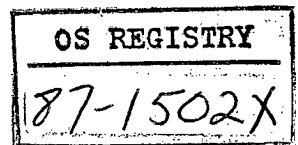


U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

OCT 20 1987

800 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20591



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Director of Security
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

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Dear

Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) Part 108 has provided for a number of years that a law enforcement officer may have a weapon accessible in the cabin of an aircraft only when it has been established that the officer has a need for that weapon in the performance of official duty. It must be shown that the officer's need for the weapon encompasses the time that the officer would have placed it in checked baggage until the time it would be returned to the officer after deplaning.

For non-Federal officers, we have required this determination to be made by the head of the agency on a case-by-case basis for each flight of any armed law enforcement officer. For Federal officers, we are asking the head of the Federal agency to provide us an update of the agency's policy regarding the carriage of weapons, particularly as it applies to travel by air. In turn, we can advise the airlines that are involved in the transportation of armed Federal law enforcement officers and thus facilitate, as may be necessary, the officers' traveling under arms.

A recent review of our files disclosed that the policy statement on file with the Office of Civil Aviation Security provided by your office is dated December 28, 1981. To enable us to properly advise the airlines and thus facilitate the travel of your officers, we would appreciate being advised of the current policy of the Central Intelligence Agency at your earliest convenience.

I am enclosing for your information a copy of FAR Part 108, Airplane Operator Security, along with a copy of FAA Advisory Circular 108-2, Security Rules--Carriage of Weapons and Escorted Persons. Also, available upon request is a videotape training aid titled, A Matter of Security, America's Airports and Flying with Firearms.

Your assistance in this matter of mutual concern is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Raymond A. Salazar
Director of Civil Aviation Security

Enclosures

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

28 DEC 1981

Mr. John M. Hunter
Chief, Air Operations Security Division
Office of Civil Aviation Security
Federal Aviation Administration
Department of Transportation
800 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20591

Dear Mr. Hunter:

In response to your request of 24 November 1981, I am outlining the authority and policies of this Agency relating to the circumstances which permit our personnel to carry firearms.

The basic authority permitting personnel of the Central Intelligence Agency to carry firearms is contained in Section 502 of the Intelligence Authorization Act, promulgated in Public Law 97-89, dated 4 December 1981.

The provisions of this Act "authorize personnel designated by the Director to carry firearms to the extent necessary for the performance of the Agency's authorized functions, except that, within the United States, such authority shall be limited to the purposes of protection of classified materials and information, the training of Agency personnel and other authorized persons in the use of firearms, the protection of Agency installations and property, and the protection of Agency personnel and of defectors, their families, and other persons in the United States under Agency auspices."

Internal regulations implementing the authority noted above specify that:

The carrying and use of Agency firearms within the United States may be authorized only by the Director of Security in connection with the following official purposes:

(a) Protection of classified documents and materials.

(b) Protection of information concerning intelligence sources or methods.

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